

REMARKS

The specification amendments are made pursuant to MPEP Section 608.01 (1). On page 10, lines 21 - 27, the applicant used the "short-cut" of completing the specification description by incorporation by reference to specified original claims by number. While applicant is entitled to rely upon the original claims for disclosure, as Section 608.01 (1) states, correct practice requires that the specification be amended to set forth directly the matter incorporated by reference to claims. Thus, the original references to claim numbers has been replaced with the texts of the claims in question. The amendatory insertions correspond exactly to the original claim language, devoid, of course, of superfluous introductory phraseology so there can be no question of new matter.

As to claim amendments, the original claims are being amended for a number of reasons: First, to remove the various instances of multiple dependency to avoid the surcharge for such claims. Next, to change the original European format to the United States style claiming the inventive aspects positively rather than narratively; third, to provide clear antecedent basis for various limitations in order to avoid the many original "non sequiturs", and finally, to attempt to clarify the original phraseology as well as to delete dependent claims which do not relate inventively to their parent claim (such as original claim 40 which recites particular dimensions that do not add to the structure of its parent apparatus claim or original claim 25 which recites only conventional technology or claim 30 which covers only what seems implicit).

Several claims are being corrected to remove obvious alternativeness (i. e. a broad limitation together with a preferred range and a most preferred lessor range), with new claims being added to cover the most preferred).

A specific comment needs to be made in connection with apparatus claims 42 - 52. These claims are being canceled because applicant's attorney does not understand independent claim 42 as it is presently worded and, consequently, does not feel competent to propose amendatory changes. After clarification by the applicant, which is not now possible in view of the imminence of the filing deadline, re-submission of some of these claims in amended form may be called for and the right to take such action is reserved.

Summarizing the status of the claims:

21 claims have been canceled, namely, 16. 17. 25. 29, 30, 32, 33, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, & 52; and

12 new claims have been added, namely 53 - 64; and

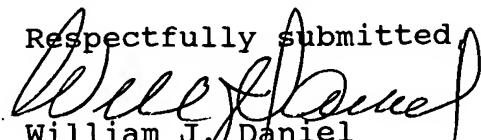
31 original claims remain in amended form.

Hence, 43 claims are in the case, including 3 independent claims.

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee is requested in order to give applicant the benefit of the lessor number of claims contained here with a concomitant reduction in the amount of the fee.

Substantive consideration by the Examiner is awaited.

Respectfully submitted


William J. Daniel
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 16,585

(703) 536-4361